

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A wireless communications unit comprising:
2 a casing having a front face;
3 a display; and
4 internal logic contained within the casing, the
5 internal logic including a date/time scheduler to control
6 activation and deactivation of a plurality of operating
7 modes of the wireless communication unit.

1 2. The wireless communication unit of claim 1,
2 wherein at least two of the plurality of operating modes
3 includes a (1) Power-Off mode where the wireless
4 communication unit is configured to neither transmit signals
5 nor receives or process information associated with an
6 incoming call, and (2) a Suspend Power-Off mode where the
7 wireless communication unit is configured to receive the
8 incoming call and prohibit transmitting signals.

1 3. The wireless communication unit of claim 1,
2 wherein one of the plurality of operating modes includes a
3 ringer mode to control a type of ring signal output by the
4 wireless communication unit.

1 4. The wireless communication unit of claim 3,
2 wherein one of the plurality of operating modes includes a
3 mode to activate and deactivate certain communication
4 protocols including at least one of GSM, CDMA and 3G.

1 5. The wireless communication unit of claim 1,
2 wherein one of the plurality of operating modes includes a
3 Pickup Pause mode where an incoming call is automatically
4 answered with a playback of a recorded message generally
5 coincident with providing a perceivable warning of the
6 incoming call to a user of the wireless communication unit.

1 6. The wireless communication unit of claim 5,
2 wherein the playback of the message indicates an estimated
3 amount of time delay needed before the user can accept the
4 incoming call, the amount of time delay is programmed by the
5 user.

1 7. The wireless communication unit of claim 1,
2 wherein the internal logic further includes a processing
3 unit coupled to a memory and a transceiver, the memory
4 storing the date/time scheduler.

1 8. A method comprising:
2 accessing a calendar program within a wireless
3 communication unit; and
4 scheduling an occurrence of a first event using the
5 calendar program to deactivate a first operating mode of the
6 wireless communication unit for a specified period of time.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the wireless
2 communication unit is a cellular telephone including a
3 display and a plurality of buttons including a keypad.

1 10. The method of claim 8 further comprising
2 scheduling an occurrence of a second event using the

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3 calendar program to activate a second operating mode of the
4 wireless communication unit for a specified period of time.

1 11. The method of claim 8 further comprising
2 scheduling a subsequent occurrence of the first event using
3 the calendar program to activate the first operating mode of
4 the wireless communication unit.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the accessing of
2 the calendar program includes generating a representation of
3 at least a partial calendar for illustration on the display.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the scheduling of
2 the occurrence of the first event using the calendar program
3 includes selecting one of a plurality of days associated
4 with the representation of at least the partial calendar to
5 produce a screen image including a plurality of event start-
6 time and selecting one of the plurality of event start-time.

1 14. The method of claim 13 further comprising
2 scheduling multiple occurrences of the first event at
3 different days than the one of the plurality of days without
4 scheduling each occurrence separately.

1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein the scheduling of
2 the occurrence of the first event using the calendar program
3 includes selecting one of a plurality of days associated
4 with the representation of at least the partial calendar to
5 produce a screen image including a field for user entry of a
6 start time of the deactivation of the operating mode by the
7 user through depression of the plurality of buttons.

1 16. The method of claim 12, wherein the scheduling of
2 the occurrence of the first event using the calendar program
3 further includes selecting the first event being associated
4 with at least one of operating modes including power mode,
5 ringer mode, communication protocol mode, pickup pause mode
6 and redial mode.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the power mode
2 includes (1) a Power-Off mode where the cellular telephone
3 is configured to neither transmit signals nor receive an
4 incoming call, and (2) a Suspend Power-Off mode where the
5 cellular telephone is configured to receive the incoming
6 call but unable to transmit.

1 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the redial mode
2 enables the cellular telephone to notify a source to an
3 incoming call of an amount of time that the cellular
4 telephone is in the Suspend Power-Off mode.

1 19. The method of claim 16, where the communication
2 protocol mode enables a user to select one of a plurality of
3 communication protocols supported by the cellular telephone,
4 the plurality of communication protocols including at least
5 two of GSM, CDMA and 3G.

1 20. The method of claim 16, wherein the Pickup Pause
2 mode enables an incoming call to be automatically answered
3 with a playback of a recorded message generally coincident
4 with providing a perceivable warning of the incoming call to
5 a user of the cellular telephone.

1 21. Embodied within a machine-readable medium executed
2 by a processing unit, a software comprising:
3 a first module to access a calendar program within a
4 wireless communication unit; and
5 a second module to schedule an occurrence of a first
6 event using the calendar program to at least perform one of
7 (i) deactivating an operating mode of the wireless
8 communication unit for a first period of time and (ii)
9 activating the operating mode of the wireless communication
10 unit for a second period of time.

1 22. The software of claim 21, wherein the machine-
2 readable medium being contained within a cellular telephone.